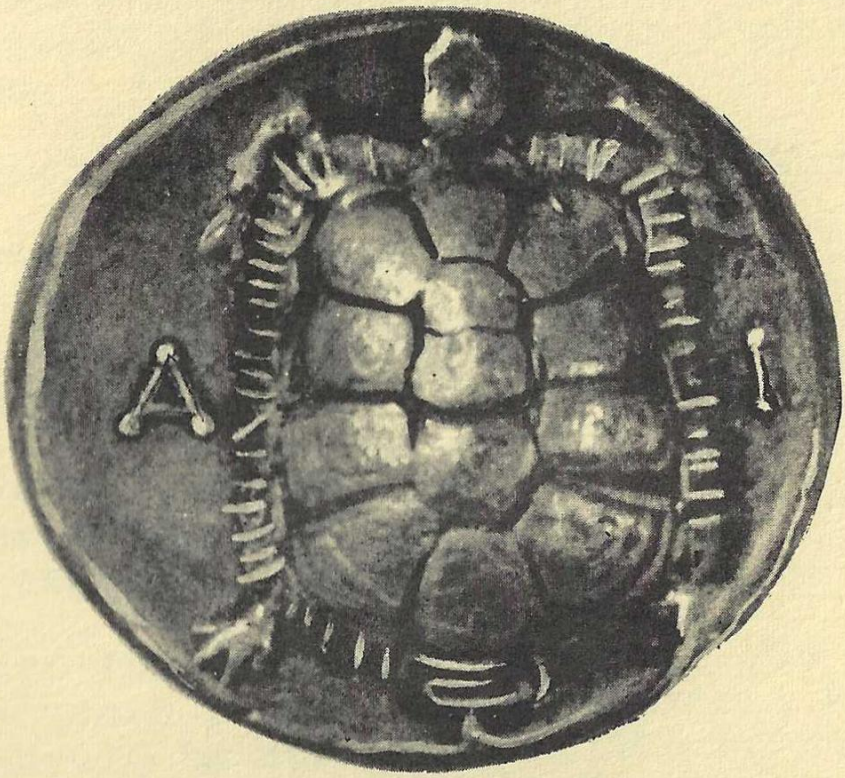

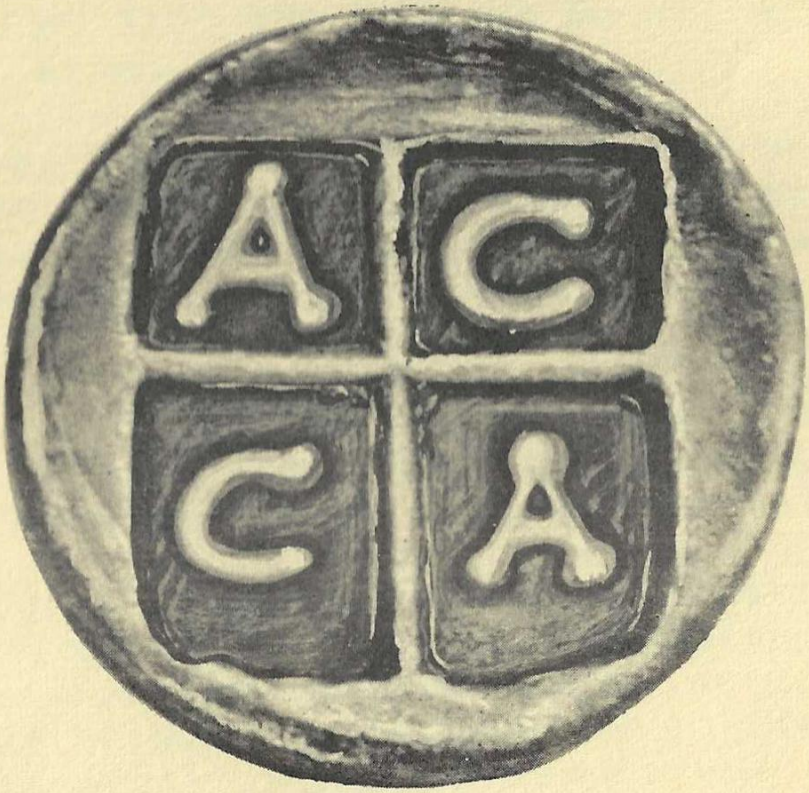

THE VOICE OF THE TURTLE

A PUBLICATION OF THE ANCIENT COIN CLUB OF AMERICA

The "Voice of the Turtle" is the official publication of the Ancient Coin Club of America.

Published monthly at Minneapolis, Minnesota

ADVERTISING RATES AND POLICY:

The following rates are effective immediately and until further notice.

Full Page	$10.00
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1/4th page	3.00

Deadline for advertising copy is the 15th of the month preceding publication. All copy should be submitted to the editorial office at 5107 39th Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minn. 55417.

All copy is to be paid in advance and until further notice contract rates are not in effect. No commissions or agency allowances are accepted.

Advertising is acceptable from all dealers, members and persons of good repute with ancient coins for sale. The seller guarentees the genuineness of his material.

The ACCA policy on restrikes, copies and related material prohibits acceptance of advertising for such material. Members or dealers handling restrikes or copies face loss of advertising privileges and expulsion from the club.

Submission of advertising copy presumes that seller will permit 5 day return privileges to the buyer.

THE ANCIENT COIN CLUB OF AMERICA

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DUES: $2.00 per year payable on April 1, and pro-rated quarterly. All dues are payable in advance and remittances should be made out to the Ancient Coin Club of America and forwarded to the secretary-treasurer.

EDITORIAL...

My daughter, age 11, came home from the corner library the other day with The Ancient Greeks by M. I. Finley. She thought her dad would like it.

Finley's book, published last year, is concerned with the life and thought of Greece and is one of a multitude of books now appearing on the ancient world.

The time was, not so long ago, when corner libraries had little or nothing on antiquity - there just was no interest or demand. Today it seems, there is a rising desire for well written material on Greece and Rome. Last year the University theater played Lysistrata and sold the house for all performances. This year they produced Euripides' Helen to most favorable audiences.

Perhaps we are not experiencing a revival of classic culture, but there is a detectable ground swell of desire to have more and know more of the great foundations of our own world.

Perhaps this is part and parcel of the refusal to let the ACCA perish. Can you comprehend any other organization suffering the set backs we have had who, rather than quietly folding their tents have had members insist time and time again, the organization can not-shall not die?

As we close out 1964 let us review. The November issue was mailed to 588 members. ACCA is not yet through its third full year. Another fine specialty group, TAMS, now entering its fifth year seeks soon to enroll its thousandth member.

We think ACCA will pass the 2500 mark in its fifth year. We feel a growing realization in this country, not only of the rising interest in antiquity as a whole, but a realization that numismatics means a study of ancient coins.

As we look forward to 1965, we may hint of at least one, possibly two serious projects relating to genuine research in ancient numismatics of which every member of ACCA can and will be urged to participate.

When the next issue of the "Turtle" reaches you it will be 1965. We want to close with heartfelt thanks to all our friends for their encouragement and support. We want to wish the best to all for a happy holiday season and admit that we have already made our new year's resolutions, these being to make 1965 a banner year for the ACCA.

John Hartman FCA

Editor:

If the year seems long to you it is only perhaps old age creeping up. Think how the Romans felt in the year 46 BC.

It was in that year the Julius Caesar effected his calender reforms, and to bring the old calender in line with the solar year of 365 days it was necessary to add days. Consequently there were 445 days in the year 46 BC.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Persons receiving a copy of this bulletin, and who applied for membership without receiving official notice of their acceptance are requested to wrte the President. The purpose of such communication is to verify desire to become an ACCA member, and to assign membership numbers.

Until certain problems of membership records can be solved, all new membership numbers will be assigned by the president.

Those persons who happen upon a copy of this bulletin, and who desire to become a member of the ACCA, are invited to write:

George E. Broughton
909 Chamberlain Court
New Haven, Indiana 46774

- - - - - - -

It is with regret that we learn of the death of Henry Franklin Poole #355 of Delhi, California at age 79.

Mr. Poole contributed one article to the "Voice of the Turtle" and was a serious and diligent student of coins and history.

The most touching tribute to Mr. Poole, who was a bachelor, was that his collector friends acted as pall-bearers at his funeral last July 17th.

THE FORUM

As in Ancient Rome where the affairs of both business and state were debated in the Forum, the "Voice of the Turtle" asks that members write us their views. These we will publish for open consideration and discussion.

THE EDITOR'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE..asks "Why the Forum?" Wouldn't Agora be as appropriate? We might add that the C.E. is Lois, a fine Greek name...

C. E. Rowe #247 writes.."My attitude is entirely that of serious collecting. I am not a wheeler-dealer. The would be profiteer is the bane of this hobby as far as I am concerned. I get from it the enjoyment of the possession and admiration of things of the past, and the association with people of similar taste."

DAVE HESS #88 writes.."As you well realize the vitality and future of any club whose members are separated by miles depends nearly 100% on publication...We're behind you."

We queried one of our advertisers who states that the Parthians had never been defeated by the Romans if he thought that Mark Antony might have turned the trick if Octavian had not with held four promised legions in Italy and Cleopatra had parted with some of the treasue of the Ptolemies. He replied no.."The main reason for his defeat was with Artavasdes, the Armenian King who left the supply line and arms used for siege along with two legions unprotected..The Parthians destroyed them.."

A MESSAGE FROM THE president . . . . .

It is the full intention of the ACCA officers to put the ACCA back on it's feet! This fact is being verified even now by the fact that you are now receiving the TURTLE regularly.

Every member owes a great round of applause to the new Editor, John E. Hartmann. For not only has John published the TURTLE, but he has also given much effort towards up-dating the mailing list. John is also working on some other things which will be announced at a proper time.

Just a word to some persons who had applied for membership but had failed to receive official notice of their acceptance ... very soon, if not by now, you will be receiving a personal note from me. Please read the note very carefully.

To the membership, my most profound appreciation for your patience is offered on bended knee. When I first became President, I had many hopes and dreams for a wonderful organization. Though these hopes and dreams grew dim for a while, it now appears that hopes may become realities, and dreams may come true.

To the men who have stood by me during our most fearful hours, my sincerest thanks ... friends and loyal collectors such as they are difficult to find in present days.

Let us now work together towards a common goal, and with a common purpose, of helping one another while at the same time improving our collections.

ATTENTION * * DEALERS

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This issue of the "Voice of the Turtle" will circulate to over 600 people who have an interest in ancient coins.

There is no other way you can direct your advertising more directly to an enthusiastic and receptive market than through this publication.

Our members need to know who you are and what you have available.

ADVERTISE

ATTENTION - - MEMBERS

- -

C. Woods, #6 was the first to sign a new member from our November appeal.

Keep in mind, one new member from each doubles the club, and signing a friend will double both his and your pleasure from ancient coins.

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ ZIP _____

SPECIALTY _____

in Review . . .

While we have no new books to review this month there are a number of items which should command your attention.

James Petshow of Box 530, Woodburn, Oregon has recently released a catalog of numismatic books and periodicals which he has available.

Argonaut Inc. of 737 N. Michigan, Chicago, Illinois has released , Ancient Coins Illustrating Lost Masterpieces of Greek Art, by Imhoof-Blumer & Gardner, edited by Al. N. Oikonomides. The book, according to our advice, contains 132 pages, 32 plates and is priced at $10.00

"Coin World" published its annual Books Supplement on November 4th. This list consists largely of books in print and publisher and price are included on most entries. There is a list of books relating to ancients in general, Greek and Roman coins.

"Coin World" has for several months, periodically run a feature page, "The World of Ancients" which is produced in cooperation with the ACCA. This feature last appeared in the November 11th issue. The articles were contributed by Mrs. Brooks Levy, associate professor of Classics at Boston University and Marie Johnson, Editor of Argonaut Library of Antiquities. Both these articles should be read.

A copy of Sydenham's Roman Republican Coinage was recently obtained in the East for $15.00. Members who know book dealers who have works of this kind available should urge them to advise your editor. The RRC is in great demand by collectors.

AUCTION INFORMATION

There will be no auction this month due to the short time between the November and December issues.

Auction #15 will appear in our January issue if sufficient material reaches the auctioneer in time, otherwise our next auction will appear in February.

Material for the February auction must reach the auctioneer by January 5th.

1. Coins placed on auction should be properly attributed and graded. A reserve price, if desired, should be plainly stated. Failure to attribute a coin will result in its delay in appearance and the auctioneer is entitled to a fee for attribution and grading.

2. The club assumes no responsibility for loss to coins. Every precaution will be taken, however; to assure their safe keeping.

3. Club commission on coins sold on auction is 10% of sale price. The club makes no reduction for postage and insurance.

4. Submission of duplicate coins to the club auction helps the club, the buyer and yourself.

Send all coins directly to the Auctioneer:

JOEL MALTER
1004 INDIANA AVENUE
VENICE, CALIFORNIA

AEGINA AND THE TURTLE

It is generally conceded that the invention of coinage was by Lydia in the early part of the 8th century BC. There is good reason to consider these coins as tokens.

Except for a small issue bearing a regal imprimature, the Lydian coins seemed to be produced by merchants. There has been no evident attempt to unify weights such that a denomination can be identified.

These tokens were lumps of electrum punched on the obverse. They circulated over a large area, were surely used for money, but their value was determined each time a coin changed hands by weight. They appear to be the logical step between heavy bars of metal and coinage, being small convenient lumps of bullion.

The honor of inventing coins can at least be claimed by Aegina. The city struck silver of uniform size and weight. The imprimature of the city was placed on each piece. The money received a "fiat" value.

Quite rapidly Aeginetan coins circulated over a wide area of the eastern Mediterranean, largely displacing the position of the Lydian electrum tokens. Because the silver was acceptable at Aegina at a fixed rate and there was confidence in their redemption the coins were accepted at face rather than local bullion value. Discounting was to cover transportation costs rather than a result of bullion fluctuation.

Corinth soon adopted the idea of coinage but circulated her coins in the western Mediterranean where they did not clash

with the Aeginetan issues.

The badge of Aegina was the turtle, and the frontspiece of this magazine bears a reproduction of the Aeginetan obverse. These turtles were as familiar to the eastern Greek world as Lincoln cents are to the modern United States.

Until the establishment of the Athenian empire, the "Turtles" were king. That they were finally eclipsed by the famous "Owls" of Athens does not imply that the Athenian was a better coinage but rather that Athens had wrested economic advantages with which Aegina could no longer compete.

The "Voice of the Turtle" is not a play on the "Song of Solomon" but rather the first widespread international coinage again speaking to those who are interested in history and numismatics.

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TO CANADIAN MEMBERS...

We regret that your November issues were delayed. We were advised by the post office that these could be mailed open as were the American copies. They were then returned and we learned that they had to be wrapped or placed in envelopes. We dropped everything and immediately complied with the post office regulation so as to minimize the delay. In the future issues going to Canada will be properly mailed.

- - - - - - - - - - - - -

A latin motto to consider is "Dum vivimus, vivamus"

NOTICE OF AWARD

Charles Cobert, Assistant to the dean of Faculty for Sponsored Research at Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, has been awarded a research grant in ancient numismatics by the American Philosophical Society.

The Grant will launch a long term project resulting in a reference volume describing the characteristics of known specimens of shekels and half shekels struck during the Jewish revolt against Rome in 66-70 AD. The project will provide an opportunity for college students to assist and to learn something of the history, art and technology of the times.

* * * *

Editors Note:

Mr. Colbert is the Librarian and Chairman of the research committee of the ACCA. He has also contributed an article which appears in this issue.

There is a splendid opportunity for ACCA members to assist in Mr. Colbert's important work. On the following pages we will print information which owners of these coins can contribute to this project and we urge every ACCA member who has coins of this period to assist Mr. Colbert.

If you own, or know of any one who possesses a Shekel of half shekel of the period 66-70 the following information should be sent to Charles Colbert, Assistant to the Dean of Faculty for sponsored research, Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio.

1. Type (shekel of half shekel)
2. Year
3. Whether coins is genuine, false or its condition uncertain.
4. Weight (preferably in grams)
5. Diameter
6. Edge characteristic (Hammered etc.)
7. Owner
8. City where located
9. Address
10. Remarks: (flaws, patina, condition etc.)

A photograph and/or plaster cast would be of great aid in the study.

Mr. Colbert advises that all contributors will be greatfully acknowledged in the published study.

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ANCIENT COIN LIST

AUTUMN XI

NOW READY FOR DISTRIBUTION...

SEND FOR FREE COPY...

JOEL MALTER
BOX 777
VENICE, CALIFORNIA

A NUMISMATIST'S DREAM

Many a numismatic buff has a recurrent dream of glamour. He is wandering in the desert amid rocks and scorpions when suddenly he comes upon a rare find. It is a jar or pot of rare coins that will startle and amaze the numismatic world. Then he awakens to find his jar an empty coffee cup.

Something like that happened to me when I was digging in December of 1963 at the ancient fortress of Massada on the western shore of the Dead Sea.

It was Saturday, the traditional day of rest in Isreal. Our archaeological team which had been digging in the ruins on top of a great plateau was enjoying a day's respite in the tent camp, 1000 feet below the summit. I obtained permisssion to leave the camp and wander among the ruins of the ancient Roman siege forts which had been used as bases to assault the fortress high above.

I was standing in a dry ravine, called a Wadi, about 40 feet below the top of a Roman wall which had fallen into ruins. It was after one of those rare heavy rains which fall in the desert. I could see the path taken by the water as it cascaded down into the wadi. I wondered if anything might have been washed down this same ravine in the past. On this hunch I climbed to a ledge about 15 feet above the Wadi bed. Looking down, I gasped when I saw a Roman coin. It was a bronze of Nero, inscribed in Greek and dated in the 14th year of Nero's reign. (68AD).

The date fit very well with the siege which had taken place in 73 AD. The coin was washed clean and perfectly legible.

That evening I reported my find to the expedition and to my delight was told that I might keep the coin since it had not been found at the dig site.

I returned to this country with my treasure. The Coin was struck at Caesaria and although not a rare one, it special significance to me. I planned to place on special display.

Not long afterwards, I received a latter from Dr. Yadin, Director of the Expedition and head of the department of Archaeolgy at Hebrew University. He asked for the return of the coin explaining that it was the policy of the expedition to retain all artifacts whether found at the site or not. I complied with his request and thus awake from my idyllic dream. Nothing remains but my memory, the impression I made of the coin and the empty coffee cup.

Some day when the voluminous records of the expedition have been published, I hope to obtain from Dr. Yadin, permission to publish a picture of the coin.

by CHARLES COLBERT

- - - - - - - - - - -

The Parthenon at Athens was destroyed, not in ancient times but in the 16th century when the Venetians blew it up since the Turks were using it as an arsenal.

ANCIENT ARTS

WE SPECIALIZE IN COINS OF ANCIENT GREECE, ROME, EGYPT, MEDIAEVAL EUROPE, ASIA, ETC.

* * * *

IN ADDITION TO COINS, WE SELL GENUINE ARTIFACTS, JEWELRY, POTTERY, ETC. OF THE ANCIENT PEOPLES OF GREECE, ROME, EGYPT, AFRICA, ETC.

IF INTERESTED IN ANY OF THE ABOVE, PLEASE WRITE US. A SAMPLE COPY OF OUR PRICE LIST IS FREE FOR THE ASKING.

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BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14226

ANCIENT SILVER COINS

PARTHIAN DRACHMS EF $5.50

Ruled Persia in the time of the Romans who did not take as much care in preparation and hurl greater arms against any other country than Persia, yet not one Parthian army surrendered, not one Parthian King graced a Roman triumph.

SASSANIAN FIRE WORSHIPPERS DIRHEM VF $2.75

Conquered the Persian Empire from the Parthians and ruled from 226-651 AD.

UMMAYADS DIRHEM EF - FDC $2.50

Conquered most of North Africa and the Near East from the Sassanian and Byzantine empires in a remarkable 60 years. A short issue of of coinage (693-753) and the start of the Moslems. (Inscriptions translated into English)

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SYRIA, ANTIOCH Silver Tetradrachms
Roman colonial issues VG $7.00
F $9.00

We also have many more coins in stock, send your wants. We carry one of the largest stocks of books on the subject of ancient coins. Send for free catalog.

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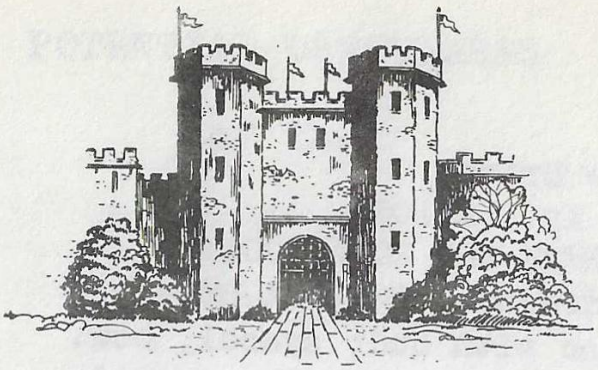
HEWITT, NEW JERSEY



ENGLISH HAMMERED COINS

ITEM#	CAT #	DESCRIPTION	GRADE	PRICE
		HENRY II, 1154 - 1189		
802.	N 964	Short cross penny, class 1c, Winchester mint. ✠GOCELM ON WINC. (PLATE 2)	F/G	$18.00
		EDWARD I, 1272 - 1307		
803.	N 1041	Penny, class 10d, London mint. Lt. clip,	F-VF	6.75
804.	N 1045	Halfpenny, class 3c, London mint.	VG/F	5.00
		EDWARD III, 1327 - 1377		
805.	N 1150	Penny, 4th pre-treaty coinage, sereis "C", Durham mint.	G	2.50
806.	N 1196	Groat, pre-treaty series Gd (1356-61) Scarce, dark.	Fair.	1.75
		HENRY VI, 1422 - 1461		
807.	N 1423	Groat, London mint, annulet issue. (1422-27)	F-VF	9.00
808.	N 1424	Groat, Calais mint, annulet issue. Obv. dbl struck,	VF	7.50
809.	N 1424	Groat, another,	F-VF	9.00
810.	N 1429	Halfgroat, Calais mint, annulet issue. some clipping,	F	5.00
811.	N 1434	Halfpenny, London mint, annulet issue. (SCARCE)	VG/VF	7.00
812.	N 1451	Penny, York mint, rosette - mascle issue. (1427-30) Type i, crosses by hair. Clipped,	Fine	5.00
		HENRY VII, 1485 - 1509		
813.	N 1705	Groat, facing bust issue, two jewelled arches, London mint, I.M. Escallop. Clipped and discolored.	F-VF	5.00
		HENRY VIII, 1509 - 1547		
814.	N 1797	Groat, 2nd coinage, no Irish title. I.M. Rose. Light scratches on reverse.	F-VF	8.75
815.	N 1802	Halfgroat, Canterbury mint, I.M. Cross Patonce. W A by Shield. (Archbishop William Warham)	VF	8.50

Dave Hess

Broadview Station Box 15025 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70815

For Sale:
C. E. Rowe
415 Lake View Drive
Brandenburg, Ky., 40108

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ACCA

GREEK AND ROMAN COINS

Rhodes, Hemidrachme, 333-304 BC, AR.
Helios/Rose with bud; symbol, bow.
No wear, but corrosion on side $6.00

Judaea, lepton, reign of Nero, year 5.
Wreath/palm. Reif. 136 Fine 8.00

Rome, Republic, denarius, 133-126 BC.
Roma/Wolf & twins with the shepherd
Faustulus. S. 461 Fine 7.00

Rome, Rep., den. c. 88 BC. Titus Tatius/
Tarpeia and soldiers. S. 699 alm.VF 6.00

Rome, Rep., den. c. 47 BC. Venus & Cupid/
Trophy & captives. CAESAR. S. 1014.
alm. F 10.00

Rome, As, After 40 BC. Augustus & Agrippa/Crocodile. RIC p. 44 Fine 5.00

Rome, AD 228-231, Severus Alexander,
den. Portrait/Victoria, RIC 215, VF 4.50

Rome, antoninianus, Herennius Etruscus,
AD 250-1. Mercurius stg. RIC 142b, VG 6.00

I am a collector, not a dealer. These pieces are graded conservatively and priced competitively.

LATE NOTICE: The club has received 27 sestertii, mostly of Marcus Aurelius. There are Hadrian, Antoninus Pius, and Commodus included in the group. Range of condition is Good to Almost VF. These will be attributed, and a list made up. If interested in purchasing any of these please contact the Editor. Part of the procedes of this sale will go to the club treasury. They will be priced about 10 - 20% below current market.

POTENTIAL USEFULNESS

of the

A C C A

HAS NO LIMITS

It can be what its members want it to be. But they must participate. You will get out of it about what you put into it. Any such group must be a co-operative organization. Keep the ball rolling.

Fr.-V.F.

Editors Note:
This page is a paid advertisement sent to us by a true friend of the ACCA.

MEANDERING...

Drama, whether the rediculous, as some present day fare offered over the electronic media, or the sublime, has entertained and uplifted men for centuries. This we owe to the Greeks, most particularly to Athens. How desolate life would be without the theater. If for no other reason than this one achievement our ancient forefathers are worthy of our attention and respect...

Each time, at the age of 35, I think too proudly of myself, I recall that Newton, Mozart and Alexander had all completed their life's work before that age...

Ordinarily Toivo Johnson doesn't bother me - he pays for the privilege of having his ideas printed and this is a free country. I do wish that he would study the ancient Romans a little more before he takes off on them though...

It gets a little under my skin when some college or university offers an extension course in coin investment and the hucksters call this numismatics. To our knowledge less than ten universities in the U.S. offer legitimate courses in numismatics, where the subject is the light thrown on history by the study and analysis of ancient coins...

The temperature this mid-November morning is two below. I envy my fellow members living in more salubrious climates...

As the old gentleman with white whiskers and the red suit said, "A Merry Christmas to all, and to all, a good night"...

ANCIENT COIN CLUB of AMERICA
John E. Hartmann, Editor
5107 39th Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minn. 55417

RETURN REQUESTED

Vol III, No. 3

TO:

Clement E. Rowe
Box 568
Brandenburg, Kentucky